



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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NEWS RELEASE

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NEW ARBORISTS GAIN CERTIFICATION

Twelve tree-care workers have become certified arborists after successfully passing an arborist apprenticeship program. The program is administered by the Utah Community Forest Council and the International Society of Arboriculture-Utah Chapter and supported by the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands.

The newly certified arborists are, Dale Neves, Mt. Pleasant, Utah; Ryan Brooksby, Las Vegas, Nevada; Roger Hanson, Las Vegas, Nevada; James Batton, Riverton, Utah; John Findlay, Pocatello, Idaho; Joseph Hartney, Jackson, Wyoming; Stephen Linde, Draper, Utah; Alma Miller, Kearns, Utah; Shelby Muir, Rexburg, Idaho; Ross Murdock, Cedar City, Utah; Lori Simonich, Riverton, Utah; and James Welton, Durango, Colorado.

"Becoming a certified arborist is no small achievement," said Scott Zeidler, community forester with the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands. "This certification makes them a great asset to any community where the health of our urban forest depends on skilled tree care."

The arborist apprentice program assists tree care workers in gaining certification and requires 144 hours of classroom instruction or 2,000 hours of classroom instruction and practical field experience in tree care skills. The arborist apprentice program is open to arborists, foresters, line clearance arborists, and anyone else in the tree care industry. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands at (801) 538-5555.

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